

Windmills



*Notes from the Ministry District Priest, Yorke Peninsula
August 2019*

Greetings

Well it has been a month and there have been no great dramas as yet. Our great pressure point this month is organising the launch of our new ministry unit, but then what? We need to think beyond. We are a ministry district but what does that mean? The danger is that we see this as some form of “super” parish, and continue on in much the same way. (And if “our” parish model worked, would we have a Ministry District?). Perhaps we need to develop our thinking?

Last month I spoke about developing inter-dependence. This is where the District functions: In the spaces between the centres. The district interconnects the centres and especially provides resources, expertise and oversight. The district (which is all of us) should be vigilant, looking to support each of the centres as opportunities come up. As a district, we can promote the Anglican and Christian presence in each centre

Mostly each centre is suffering from the shared problems of ageing and declining congregations. But what are we doing to change this? There is a book, called the New Parish which is one of many looking at predicting what the church ought to look like. As we are creating the large entity of the ministry district, this material points to the essential character of the church as truly local. We ought to be striving to be the church of *the place*. Over the next few months, I am beginning to think about the idea of the neighbourhood church. At both Corny Point and Curramulka, we are beginning to see this expressed. Perhaps this is emerging almost by accident, but as we continue to work in places with limited resources, how much more can we achieve, as we work towards shared kingdom goals. Now is a good time to start to think these things through.

Andrew

Upcoming Events

Lay Education & Formation Days

Friday, August 9, 10am - 3pm BYO Lunch

Mothers' Union

Wednesday, August 14, 2pm (St Benedict)

Launching the District Saturday August 24

11am

Muloowurtie Memorial Institute
Coast Road, Pine Point
(Next to Caravan Park)

We believe that as part of a new start, we have something to celebrate. We will be launching our new ministry district officially with a service and a fellowship lunch.

Members from each centre are encouraged to choose something symbolic of their centre to bring to the service to be blessed. Each centre will be given a candle holder to symbolise our shared ministry.

Edithburgh Ecumenical Service

Thursday, August 22 - 9:30am
Anglican Church

Soup Day

Wednesday, August 28 about Noon
(St Benedict) -\$5

Coffee and Craft

Friday September 4, 10am (St Benedict)

District Men's Breakfast

Saturday Sept 7, 7:30am (St Benedict)
Guest Speaker: Bob and Audrey Edwards
The Edwards will speak of some of their life adventures with the Mail Run.

Mission Support Team

Friday, September 13 10:30am (Rectory)
Bring & Share Lunch

Synod Representatives Ministry District of Yorke Peninsula

The current list which will stand until we have new elections:

Clergy Representatives:

The Venerable Andrew Lang
The Reverend Louise Lang
The Reverend Anne Ford
The Reverend Christine Smith

Lay Representatives:

Cheryl Bates
Robert Cook
Kirsty Dinnison
June Harrison
Greg Illman
Greg Twelftree

Alternate:

Cheryl Carmichael

Synod will be held in Jamestown over the weekend: October 25 – 27

Children's Ministry at Point Turton

We are beginning to plan to start a children's ministry at Point Turton. We are working towards a Sunday afternoon programme targeting 7 to 11 year olds.

Programme will include games and other activities to connect with the young people and we will take the opportunity to run a church service while we have the venue

Changes in Requirements

Working with Children Check

From 1 July 2019, people working or volunteering with children in South Australia must, by law, have a valid child-related clearance. The new, stronger laws for people working or volunteering with children were recommended as part of federal and South Australian royal commissions and help keep children safe in our community.

All who hold a Bishop's License or an Office in the district will need to apply. WWCC is free for volunteers.

Contact: screening.sa.gov.au to commence the process.

Commissioning of the Reverend Steve Weickhardt – September 19 at 7:30 pm, St Thomas's, Port Lincoln. Steve joins us from the Diocese of Bendigo

WIDER CHURCH

Diocese of The Murray

The Reverend Keith Dalby will be consecrated a Bishop in the Church of God at 7:00 pm on Friday 16th August 2019 at St Peter's Cathedral, North Adelaide to be Diocesan Bishop of the Murray.

His installation will occur at 11:00 am on Saturday, August 17, at the Cathedral in Murray Bridge. Please uphold Keith in your prayers.

Bishop's Mandalay Girls' Orphanage Appeal

Our partner Diocese, the Diocese of Mandalay in the Province of Myanmar (Burma), is establishing a girls' Orphanage at Shwebo.

The girls' orphanage will be built on land adjacent to the boys orphanage and is estimated to cost \$150,000.



The Anglican Diocese of Willochra is committed to the continuing support for the orphanage project and pray you will join us in raising much needed funds.

Donations can be made via Cash, Cheque or Direct Deposit to:

Name: Diocese of Willochra
BSB: 105-049
Account: 0324 395 40

** Please use your Name and Mandalay as your reference **

PO Box 96, Gladstone SA 5473
Phone: (08) 8662 2249

If you require a receipt, please provide name and address to: accountant@diowillochra.org.au

Please note that all donations over \$2 are tax deductible

Responding to the Royal Commission

On Tuesday July 16, a number of us attended a Workshop on the implementation of three of the Recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The three recommendations addressed were Professional Supervision, Professional Development and Ministry Review.

We must not forget that the Royal Commission recommendations were focused on preventing future abuse, not on punishment. They are intended to help us create a Safe Church environment and safe practices.

The Deaneries at their best can act to ensure that no one feels alone, with no one to talk with. They can create a place of mutual supportive care, which is both empathetic and compassionate, which prevents a spiral into unhealthy thoughts and actions. Professional or Pastoral Supervision is an extension of shared care, but with a clear focus on maintaining healthy work patterns, self-care – both physical and psychological, and healthy relationships. The research that the Royal Commission undertook found that some perpetrators acted under extreme psychological stress, which was not identified or addressed; supervision is meant to assist in addressing this. Professional Development is intended to encourage critical reflection on the current ministry and to increase the ability for high functioning in ministry. Hopefully, it assists in not losing spiritual fervour in serving the Lord (Rom 12:11). Ministry Review is meant to assist in reflection on ministry, review and amend ministry position descriptions, devise specific plans for the next few years, and review conditions of appointment (where appropriate). The Royal Commission's recommendation in this area is that a review/enhancement process should occur annually.

How does this help us to achieve the Missio Dei (God's Mission)?

Where behaviour is not consistent with Belief, then why would anyone wish to belong? When I was younger, the most significant thing that separated me from the church was my perception that it was hypocritical – its words and actions were not coherent. Its behaviour was not in alignment with its beliefs.

As we approach the implementation of the Royal Commission's recommendations, let's remember what motivated them – a systemic failure by the church to safeguard children. Let's recall that they are meant to prevent such a systemic failure occurring again.

Extract from the Bishop's letter for July



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